ھو سکتا ھے اکانامک طریقے سے یا اور دوسری طرح سے ان پر قدم اٹھایا جا رہا ھے -

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question Hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Setting up of an international body for small newspapers

*301. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to set up an international body for small newspapers;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) by when the proposal is likely to be finalised?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI AJIT PANJA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Problems of the fishing industry

*303. SHRI SUBAS MOHANTY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) what steps Government are taking to assist the fishing industry which is in doldrums due to poor catches;

(b) whether in view of the steady decline of shrimp catches, Government propose to review all its policies including chartering and joint ventures;

(c) if not, to what factor Government attribute the steady decline of the marine catches for the third consecutive year;

(d) whether any Committee has since been appointed to study the relief measures for this industry employing lakhs of poor people; and

(e) what other measures are being considered to help the fishing industry?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI G. S. DHILLON): (a) to (c) Marine fish landings during the last six years are indicated below:—

(in lakh Tonnes)

Year	Marine Fish Production	Total fish Production
1981-82 . . .	14.45	24.44
1982-83 . . .	14.27	23.67
1983-84 . . .	15.19	25.06
1984-85 . . .	16.98	28.01
1985-86 . . .	17.16	28.76
1986-87(P) . . .	17.13	29.42

(P)-Provisional

Shrimp landings during the last six years are also indicated below:—

(in Lakh tonnes)

Year	Shrimp Production
1981	1.64
1982	2.10
1983	1.93
1984	2.03
1985	2.32
1986	2.15

The above statistics do not reveal any decline either in the landings of marine fish or shrimp. The data actually show a steady growth in the landings, subject to natural fluctuations in the abundance of the fishery resources. Since operation of fishing vessels under charter and joint ventures would increase the fish catches, the question of reviewing the policies does not arise.

(d) and (e) No Committee has been appointed to study the relief measures for the fishing industry. However, the following steps have been taken for promoting the sea fishing industry:—

(i) Augmentation of deep sea fishing fleet through a judicious mix of indigenous, imported and chartered fishing vessels;

(ii) Providing 33 per cent subsidy on the cost of indigenously built deep sea fishing vessels;

(iii) Augmentation of fishery surveys and training of fishery operatives;

(iv) Assistance for construction of fishing harbours and landing & berthing facilities at fishing centres to States;

(v) Regulation of Fishing by Foreign Vessels in the Exclusive Economic Zone through enactment of Maritime Zones of India (Regulation of Fishing by Foreign Vessels) Act, 1981; and

(vi) Encouraging motorisation of traditional fishing boats and introduction of improved Beach Landing Craft by providing subsidy.

Inclusion of PIC Clause in the FAO code on pesticides

*304. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to refer to reply to Unstarred Question 4095 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 28th August, 1987 and State whether Government propose to support the proposal to include the Prior Informal Consent Clause in the FAO International Code of Conduct on the Distribution and Use of Pesticides at the forthcoming FAO Council meeting due in November, 1987 in order to protect the interests of the developing countries in the Third World?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI G. S. DHILLON): The FAO International Code of Conduct on the Distribution and Use of Pesticides was adopted on 28th November, 1985. Since the Code is voluntary, any changes will have to be brought about on the basis of consensus. Since it has been in operation for a short time, any amendment to the Code, including the inclusion of a "Prior Informed Consent" Clause therein, may have to follow a full study of its impact, based on experience over a longer period.

In the FAO Council meeting held at Rome, India supported the need for priority attention to this subject and amendment to the Code, if warranted, based on a study and experience in the implementation of the Code.

Illegal sale of gift materials by the IISCO

*305. SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that gift material received from Japan for construction of quarters for the lowest category of workers in the captive mines of SAIL was allotted to different Steel Plants of the SAIL;

(b) if so, what is the number of quarters constructed by each Steel Plant and in which captive mines;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the IISCO authorities sold out the gift material in the open market;

(d) if so, what are the details thereof and what action has been